
Fact Sheet

Project Information

- **BIOSEC**
- Grant agreement ID: 694995
- Funded under H2020-EU.1.1.
- Overall budget € 1 822 729
- EU contribution € 1 822 729
- **Status**
- Ongoing project
- **Hosted by**
- THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD
- United Kingdom

Start date 1 September 2016
End date 31 August 2020

This project is featured in...

RESEARCH*EU MAGAZINE
Biodiversity: A New Deal for Nature

Objective

The core intellectual aim of BIOSEC is to explore whether concerns about...
The core intellectual aim of BIOSEC is to explore whether concerns about biodiversity protection and global security are becoming integrated, and if so, in what ways. It will do so via building new theoretical approaches for political ecology.

Achim Steiner, UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Director of UNEP recently stated ‘the scale and role of wildlife and forest crime in threat finance calls for much wider policy attention’. The argument that wildlife trafficking constitutes a significant source of ‘threat finance’ takes two forms: first as a lucrative business for organised crime networks in Europe and Asia, and second as a source of finance for militias and terrorist networks, most notably Al Shabaab, Lord’s Resistance Army and Janjaweed.

BIOSEC is a four year project designed to lead debates on these emerging challenges. It will build pioneering theoretical approaches and generate new empirical data. BIOSEC takes a fully integrated approach: it will produce a better conceptual understanding of the role of illegal wildlife trade in generating threat finance; it will examine the links between source and end user countries for wildlife products; and it will investigate and analyse the emerging responses of NGOs, government agencies and international organisations to these challenges.

BIOSEC goes beyond the ‘state-of-the art’ because biodiversity protection and global security currently inhabit distinctive intellectual ‘silos’; however, they need to be analysed via an interdisciplinary research agenda that cuts across human geography, politics and international relations, criminology and conservation biology. This research is timely because in the last two years, the idea that the illegal wildlife trade constitutes a major security threat has become more prevalent in academic and policy circles, yet it is an area that is under researched and poorly understood. These recent shifts demand urgent conceptual and empirical interrogation.

Field of science

/social sciences/economics and business/business and management/commerce
/social sciences/law/criminology

Programme(s)

Topic(s)

Call for proposal

ERC-2015-AdG
Funding Scheme

ERC-ADG - Advanced Grant

Host institution

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

Address: Firth Court Western Bank, S10 2TN Sheffield, United Kingdom
Activity type: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments
EU contribution: €1,822,729
Website: [Contact the organisation]

Beneficiaries (1)

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

United Kingdom
EU contribution: €1,822,729
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